

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening
5 and a slot, the cover further having a tab extending outward from the cover; and
an element rotatably supported by the cover, the element having an aperture
and an actuator accessible through the slot, wherein the element is moveable by
manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is
misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the aperture is aligned
10 with the opening.
2. The lid of claim 1 wherein the cover has an annular top wall and the opening is
positioned in the top wall.
3. The lid of claim 2 wherein the slot is positioned in the annular top wall.
4. The lid of claim 2 wherein the cover has a side wall depending from the top wall, the
15 side wall having a mounting portion for connecting the lid to the container.
5. The lid of claim 4 wherein the tab extends radially outward from the mounting
portion.
6. The lid of claim 5 wherein the tab has a first segment, a sloped second segment, and
a third segment.
- 20 7. The lid of claim 5 wherein the tab has a curvilinear peripheral edge.
8. The lid of claim 1 wherein the cover has at least one support member extending
radially inward from an inner surface of the cover, wherein the support member
rotatably supports the element.
- 9 The lid of claim 8 wherein the support member is positioned proximate the opening
25 of the cover.
10. The lid of claim 8 wherein the cover has a side wall with a recessed portion, the
support member extends from the recessed portion near the opening of the cover.
11. The lid of claim 1 wherein the element has a projection that is received by the
opening in the first position.
- 30 12. The lid of claim 1 wherein the aperture and the opening are cooperatively

dimensioned such that a passageway is formed in the second position, the passageway permitting the flow of the substance through the lid.

13. The lid of claim 1 wherein the projection is offset from the opening in the second position.

5 14. The lid of claim 1 wherein the actuator is a post that extends from the element and a portion of the post is received in the slot.

15. The lid of claim 1 wherein the element has a disk-shaped configuration.

16. The lid of claim 1 wherein the element has a ring-shaped configuration.

10 17. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening and a slot, the cover further defining an interior region; and

an element rotatably supported in the interior region of the cover, the element having an actuator accessible through the slot, the element further having a channel,
15 wherein the element is moveable by manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the channel is misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the channel is aligned with the opening.

18. The lid of claim 17 wherein the channel is defined by a raised segment of the element.

20 19. The lid of claim 18 wherein in the second position, a passageway is formed, the passageway permitting the flow of the substance through the lid.

20. The lid of claim 17 wherein the element has a projection that is received by the opening in the first position.

21. The lid of claim 17 wherein the cover has an annular top wall.

25 22. The lid of claim 21 wherein the opening is positioned in the top wall.

23. The lid of claim 22 wherein the slot is positioned in the annular top wall.

24. The lid of claim 21 wherein the cover has a side wall depending from the top wall, the side wall having a mounting portion for connecting the lid to the container.

25. The lid of claim 24 wherein the cover has at least one support member on the side wall wherein the element is rotatably supported by the support member.
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26. The lid of claim 25 wherein the support member extends radially inward from an inner surface of the cover and rotatably supports the element.
27. The lid of claim 17 wherein the actuator is a post that extends from the element and a portion of the post is received in the slot.
- 5 28. The lid of claim 17 wherein the element has a disk-shaped configuration.
29. The lid of claim 17 wherein the element has a ring-shaped configuration.
30. A method for assembling a lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the method comprising the following steps:
- 10 providing a cover configured to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening and a slot;
- providing a rotatable element having an aperture and an actuator;
- positioning the cover against at least one guide to fix the angular position of the cover; and,
- 15 positioning the rotatable element within an interior region of the cover such that the actuator is aligned with the slot.
31. A method for assembling a lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the method comprising the following steps:
- 20 providing a cover configured to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening and a slot, the cover further having a tab extending outward from the cover;
- providing a rotatable element having an aperture and an actuator;
- positioning the tab of the cover between a pair of guides to fix the angular position of the cover; and,
- 25 positioning the rotatable element within an interior region of the cover such that the actuator extends through the slot.

32. A method for assembling a lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the method comprising the following steps:

providing a cover configured to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening, a slot, and at least one support member, the cover further having a tab extending outward from the cover;

providing a rotatable element having an aperture and an actuator;

positioning the tab of the cover between a pair of guides to fix the angular position of the slot; and,

positioning the rotatable element within an interior region of the cover such that the actuator extends through the slot and the element is rotatably supported by the support member of the cover.

33. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:

a cover having a mounting portion to attach the lid to the container, the cover having an annular top wall with an opening and a slot, the cover further having a curvilinear tab extending radially outward from the mounting portion; and

an element rotatably supported by the cover, the element having an aperture and an actuator accessible through the slot, wherein the element is moveable by manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the aperture is aligned with the opening.

34. The lid of claim 33 wherein the cover has at least one support member wherein the element is rotatably supported by the support member.

35. The lid of claim 34 wherein the support member extends radially inward from a side wall of the cover.

36. The lid of claim 34 wherein the support member depends from a top wall of the cover.

37. The lid of claim 36 wherein the support member has a horizontal component that rotatably engages the element.

38. The lid of claim 37 wherein the element has a ring-shaped configuration.

39. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening and a slot; and
an element having an aperture and an actuator, the element rotatably supported by the cover wherein the actuator slidingly engages a portion of the cover, wherein the element is moveable by manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the aperture is aligned with the opening.
40. The lid of claim 39 wherein the actuator has a flange that slidingly engages a top wall of the cover.
41. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening and a slot;
an element having an aperture and an actuator accessible through the slot, wherein the element is moveable by manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the aperture is aligned with the opening; and
means for rotatably supporting the element on the cover.
42. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening, a slot, and a support member; and
a moveable element rotatably mounted on the support, the element having an aperture and an actuator accessible through the slot, wherein the element is moveable by manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the aperture is aligned with the opening.
43. The lid of claim 42 wherein the cover has a top wall and a side wall, the support member positioned in the top wall.

44. The lid of claim 43 wherein the opening and the slot are positioned in the top wall.
45. The lid of claim 43 wherein the support member is located substantially in the center of the top wall.
46. The lid of claim 43 wherein the top wall has a recessed central portion.
- 5 47. The lid of claim 46 wherein the element has a recessed central portion corresponding to the recessed central portion of the top wall.
48. The lid of claim 42 wherein the element further has a projection, wherein the projection is received in the opening when the element is in the first position.
49. The lid of claim 42 wherein the cover further has a mounting portion, the mounting
10 portion adapted to be attached to the container.
50. The lid of claim 42 wherein the actuator is a post received by the slot.
51. The lid of claim 42 wherein the element is a disk
52. The lid of claim 42 wherein the cover defines an interior region, the element positioned in the interior region.
- 15 53. The lid of claim 42 wherein the support member depends from the cover.
54. The lid of claim 42 wherein the element has an indentation, the element rotatably mounted on the support member such that the support member is received in the indentation.
55. The lid of claim 54 wherein the support member and the indentation are cooperatively
20 dimensioned such that they are in rotational engagement with each other.
56. The lid of claim 54 wherein the support member and the indentation are cooperatively dimensioned such that they engage each other with an interference fit.
57. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
- 25 a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having a top wall, a side wall, an opening, a slot, and a support member depending from the top wall; and
- a moveable element having an aperture, an actuator accessible through the slot, and an indentation, the element rotatably mounted on the support member such
30 that the support member is received in the indentation, wherein the element is

moveable by manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the aperture is aligned with the opening.

- 5 58. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
 a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having a top wall,
 a side wall, an opening, a slot, and a support member depending from the top wall;
 and
 a moveable element having a first and second apertures and an actuator
10 accessible through the slot, wherein the element is moveable by manipulation of the
 actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is misaligned with the opening,
 a second position wherein the first aperture is aligned with the opening, and a third
 position wherein the second aperture is aligned with the opening.
- 15 59. The lid of claim 59 wherein the element is moved from the first position to the
 second position in a first direction, and the element is moved from the first position
 to the third position in a second direction.
- 20 60. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
 a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having a top wall,
 a side wall, an opening, a slot, and a support member depending from the top wall;
 a moveable element rotatably mounted on the support, the element having an
 aperture and an actuator accessible through the slot, wherein the element is moveable
 by manipulation of the actuator between a first position wherein the aperture is
 misaligned with the opening, and a second position wherein the aperture is aligned
25 with the opening; and
 wherein at least one of the cover and the element is thermoformed.
- 30 61. A lid for a container holding a flowable substance, the lid comprising:
 a cover adapted to be attached to the container, the cover having an opening,
 and a slot, the cover further having side wall with a channel extending generally along

an inner surface of the side wall,

an element rotatably supported by the cover, the element having a recessed portion with a first projection, the element further having an actuator accessible through the slot wherein the element is moveable between a first position wherein the first projection is received by the opening, and a second position wherein the recessed portion is in fluid communication with the channel and opening.

62. The lid of claim 61 wherein a fluid passageway is formed by the opening, the channel and the recessed portion in the second position.

63. The lid of claim 61 wherein a clearance is formed between the element and the cover near the opening in the second position.

64. The lid of claim 61 wherein the recessed portion has a second projection.

65. The lid of claim 1 wherein the cover further having a tab extending outward from the cover.